

MINUTES
PS 166 PTA GENERAL MEETING
APRIL 21ST, 2016 AT 8:40 AM IN THE CAFETERIA

- I. Call to Order**
The meeting was called to order at 8:40AM by Co-President Erin Volkmar. Quorum was established.
- II. Approval of Minutes**
MOTION to approve the minutes of the General Board Meeting held on March 16th, 2016 was made by Erin Volkmar and seconded by Kerri Keiger. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- III. Everfi Presentation**
- a. Everfi is a financial literacy program through first republic. We discussed the possibility of bringing this program to PS 166, perhaps for older grades, during technology, after state-wide testing. The entire program is 2-3 hours from start to finish.
 - b. You can try out the program by going to www.everfi.com/login. Click Register and click Student/Learner. Enter the class registration code 82945cc and click Next. Follow the directions for a secure password. Student email addresses are not required.
- IV. PTA / SLT Elections June 8th, Other volunteer opportunities**
- a. 5-8 spots are available for PTA. 2 spots open for SLT.
 - b. You can nominate yourself. Note that two people can run for co-president on the same ticket.
 - c. Also: We are looking for chairs for Fall Fest, Auction, Spirit Wear, etc.
- V. Deb Markewich**
- a. May 12th, 4:30-7:30 is Parent Engagement night.
 - b. May 4th: Graduation photos for K and 5th grade. Need volunteers to help with photo day for around 2 hours
 - c. May 4th: Deadline for G&T application.
- VI. Principal Mastriano**
- a. Testing is done! It was untimed this year as per new guidelines. The children were working productively so staff allowed them to keep working, with lunch breaks, etc. when needed.
 - b. Summer in the City
 - o STEM program this summer hosted at PS 166, Grades 2-5. Over 400 kids will attend, chosen by lottery. The program runs July 7th - August 11th, not on Fridays.
 - o PS 166 is the only Manhattan location. In exchange for hosting, the school will get a laptop cart with Macs and another car with Chromebooks. PS 166 teachers get priority if they want to teach.
 - o The program will use 20 classrooms from grades 2 to 5, and will also use the art, science, and technology rooms, the cafeteria, gym and the yard.
 - o To apply: Deb Markewich will send info: <http://schools.nyc.gov/Academics/Science/NYCSummerSTEM>. Let her know if you will be applying.

VII. Tuesday's Elections:

- a. We were supposed to have one guard per entrance, they didn't send anyone so we had to scramble for volunteers. Write to the Board of Elections and the Mayor's office to let them know this isn't acceptable.
- b. Helen Rosenthal is trying to get elections out of K-5 schools during school days.
- c. Parents want to know: Why is the school closed in November but not on school days? Karyn Gooden is writing a letter from the PTA Exec. Board.
- d. On June 28th there may be another election, and another in September.

VIII. CEC Report: Kim Watkins

- a. Zoning committee is still working with the DOE on the southern part of the district.
- b. The School Construction Authority recently updated the Blue Book capacity of each school building. They added 71 seats to PS 166 without visiting the school. They will come visit the school shortly for a walk through. They are not counting cluster rooms as seats. The DOE considers art, science, computer rooms as classrooms. We are trying to hold onto these as special rooms.

IX. Auction: Erin Peck

- a. \$146K gross revenue from the auction this year.
- b. In the future, it is best to pay via paypal, with the school not paying fees. The school has in the past paid around \$10K in credit card fees each year; we want to avoid this.

X. President's Report: Erin Volkmar

- a. Please give, we are down a lot from last year. There will be a push soon.
- b. Note that the PTA donates \$5K to the fifth grade for graduation. Anything above that needs to be paid for by parents.
- c. Budget - please email the PTA Presidents for a copy. We won't be able to print many copies for the meeting because the budget is long. Please give feedback before June. Class reps should send a note to their classes to remind them to ask for a budget.
- d. Pick up: We are still picking up outside the school instead of the yard because teachers feel it is easier to keep track of the students.

XI. Green Wellness:

- a. There will be an assembly for earth day for K-2 and 3-5.
- b. PS 166 was chosen to be part of a Zero Waste Initiative for the coming year. The recycling bins will be changed. Ms. Middleton is now Sustainability Coordinator for the school. Next year the coordinator will have greater responsibilities.
- c. Suzi and Lisa have been attending the district-wide Green Wellness meetings.
- d. Green Smoothies - Volunteers needed. Email carly@wellnessintheschools.org.

XII. Adjournment There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel A. Polimeni, Recording Secretary